

7/5/09

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Lime Lake-Lake Gage Channel and Bridge

other names/site number Lime Lake Public Access Site; 151-018-15001

2. Location

street & number North Lake Gage Drive

N/A ☐ not for publication

city or town Angola

☒ vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Steuben

code 151 zip code 46703

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination
☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of
Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property
☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be consider significant
☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional
comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

☐ entered in the National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined eligible for the National
Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined not eligible for the National
Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other, (explain:)

**Lime Lake-Lake Gage Channel and
Bridge**

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as
apply)

- ☐ private
☐ public-local
☒ public-state
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)
☐ district
☒ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	0	buildings
1	0	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
2	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register**

0

New Deal Resources on Indiana
State Lands

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION: road-related

LANDSCAPE: natural feature

RECREATION AND CULTURE: outdoor recreation

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION: road-related

LANDSCAPE: natural feature

RECREATION AND CULTURE: outdoor recreation

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Park Rustic

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Stone

roof N/A

other Concrete

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets

Lime Lake-Lake Gage Channel and
Bridge

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN

County and State

8. Statement of Significance
See Continuation Sheets

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☐ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination if individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
- # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Areas of significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION
SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1936-1959

Significant Dates

1936

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

WPA

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☒ Other

Name of repository:

ARCH, Inc.

Lime Lake-Lake Gage Channel and
Bridge

Name of Property

Steuben County, IN

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	6	6	5	6	8	5	5	4	6	1	9	2	4	5
Zone		Easting						Northing						

2														
---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

3														
Zone		Easting						Northing						

4														
---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

See accompanying map.

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

See Continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michael Galbraith and Angie Quinn

organization ARCH, Inc.

date July 1, 2009

street & number 437 East Berry, Suite 402

telephone 260.426.5117

city or town Fort Wayne

state IN

zip code 46802

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 Or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife

street & number 402 West Washington St., W273

telephone 317.233.0647

city or town Indianapolis

state Indiana

zip code 46204

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance to the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (4001-0040), Washington, DC 20503.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

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Lime Lake - Lake Gage Channel and Bridge
Steuben County, IN

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Lime Lake-Lake Gage Channel and Bridge is located in Mill Grove Township, Steuben County, Indiana. The Channel and Bridge site is located on a small isthmus between the freshwater lakes of Lime Lake and Lake Gage, and is part of the larger Lime Lake Public Access Site, owned by the State of Indiana. The roughly triangular Public Access Site is bordered on the north by Orland Road and to the west by Lime Lake. On the east, the Public Access Site is bordered by North Lake Gage Drive to the bridge approach and abutments, and then east along the channel's edge to Lake Gage. The north end of the Public Access Site along Lime Lake includes a picnic area, with a slightly higher elevation and is planted with grass and a mixture of mature conifer and deciduous trees. Owned by the State of Indiana, Department of Natural Resources, the Public Access Site also includes a gravel parking lot and concrete boat launch ramp accessing Lime Lake.

From its mouth at Lake Gage, the Channel and Bridge Site boundary follows the north side of the channel west approximately 159 feet and includes the abutments, and bridge, as it continues to Lime Lake. On the south side of the channel, the approximately 150 feet boundary follows the channel's edge to the Bridge, and continues west to the channel's mouth at Lime Lake. Due to seasonal variations in the water level of the lakes, the channel shoreline can fluctuate in length.

On the west, towards Lime Lake, the channel and bridge are surrounded on both sides of the water by a low-lying wooded area with a mixture of hybrid Tamarack trees, planted c. 1936, and typical regional native plants. On the west side of the bridge the southern bank of the channel has cottages bordering Lime Lake. On the east side of the channel and bridge (both north and south) are found cottages bordering Lake Gage.

The channel was constructed at the site of a pre-1936 small stream and area of low-lying seasonal wetlands. As shown on early plat maps, the small stream flowed in a northwesterly direction from Lake Gage to Lime Lake (Attachment A). Dredged in 1936 by workers employed

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under a Works Progress Administration grant, the channel still flows in a northwesterly direction.¹ The channel has a sand bottom and its banks are lined with deliberately placed fieldstones, ranging in size from that of a baseball to that of volleyball (Photos 1 and 2). The historic plantings of hybrid tamarack trees line the bank and the orderly plantings of 1936 have propagated in the wild to create a more random, natural setting.² Aerial photographs from 1938 and 2005 document not only the completion of the dredging, channel and bridge construction projects, but also show the increase in vegetative cover from 1938, the relationship of the channel to the lakes, and the rise of water level from 1938 (Attachments B and C). Excepting the increased wild vegetation and rising water level, the channel retains most of the c. 1936 character. The channel and improvements are owned by the State of Indiana.

Spanning the channel and carrying North Lake Gage Drive over the channel is a small fieldstone and concrete bridge. (Photo 3) It is 14.8 feet in width, 26 feet in length and 7 feet in rise.³ It is constructed of concrete supports set upon, and spanning between, paired fieldstone and concrete abutments flanked by similarly constructed concrete and fieldstone wingwalls. The concrete supports are horizontal, having a flat arch aspect. Rising from the fieldstone abutments and spanning the outer edges of the bridge are paired decorative fieldstone and concrete walls with small pillars at each end of each of the walls, as well as a small pillar in the center of each wall. (Photos 4 and 5) The pillars are both slightly wider and taller than the accompanying wall, with the body of the wall slightly recessed from the pillars. "Ghosts" of a metal lamp that once graced the central pillar on each side of the bridge remain, and the metal lamps are documented in a c. 1938 photo. (Photo 6 and Attachment D) The bridge retains a remarkable degree of historic integrity, and with the exception of the loss of the metal lamps from the central pillars of the wall and seasonally cleaned paint graffiti vandalism under the bridge, all of the bridges' character defining features remain from 1936.

¹ Morley, Harvey W., *The 1955 History of Steuben County, Indiana* (Angola, IN; Harvey w. Morley, 1956)

² "Hitzfield remembers first outboard motor on Gage" *Steuben County Herald Republican*, July 14, 1995 (Lake Gage Clipping File, Angola Public Library, Angola, IN)

³ Dimensions from the inspection reports of the Steuben County Highway Department. Bridge terminology from Cooper, James L., *Artistry and Ingenuity in Artificial Stone: Indiana's Concrete Bridges, 1900-1942* (No city, No publisher 1997) 10

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WPA Plans, c. 1936, for the area that is now the Public Access Site included both fish rearing ponds and game bird rearing houses.⁴ If built, no trace remains of such ponds and houses.

⁴ Weaver, Joseph A., *Lake Gage and Lime Lake Reflections* (No city: Joseph A. Weaver, 2002)

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Lime Lake - Lake Gage Channel and Bridge
Steuben County, IN

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lime Lake-Lake Gage Bridge and Channel are significant under National Register Criterion A, as being associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. Representing the New Deal's response to the Great Depression of the 1930's, the bridge and channel outstandingly represent a Works Project Administration project in Indiana. The channel and bridge also embody the distinctive construction method and defining characteristics of the Park Rustic architectural style, a style that became associated with vacation and resort architecture. The bridge and channel also meet the associated property types guidelines related to infrastructure resources discussed in the Multiple Property document "New Deal Resources on Indiana State Lands."

The Lime Lake-Lake Gage Channel and Bridge are locally significant under the categories of Social History and Entertainment as examples of New Deal era Works Progress Administration Projects that addressed not only the rampant unemployment of the Great Depression by providing work for local men, but also increased the recreational opportunities for vacationers and local residents. The Bridge and Channel played an important role in the establishment and growth of a lake cottage culture that had its highlight in the years from 1870-1950. Therefore, its period of significance begins in 1936 with its construction and continues to the 50 year cut off in 1959. The Lime Lake - Lake Gage Bridge and Channel retains integrity in its location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, association and feeling, which, aside from normal maintenance and vegetative growth, remains largely unchanged. This meets the registration requirements established in the Multiple Property Document for "New Deal Resources on Indiana State Lands."

Due to the unique geography of the county, Steuben County has a large number of freshwater lakes of varying sizes. Remnants of the glaciers, some of these "kettle-hole" lakes are quite large, the deepest reaching to 100 feet deep. Lake Gage is one such "kettle-hole" lake, oval shaped and approximately one mile by three quarters of a mile. It has been described as "one of

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the finest specimens in Indiana.”⁵ Beginning in the 1870s, the cool clear freshwater lakes, and the expansion of railroad service through the area made the area a magnet for vacationing Midwesterners, who spent the hot, pre-air-conditioned summers at the lakes. They escaped from the heat of cities like Toledo, Fort Wayne, Cleveland and Indianapolis to enjoy the cool breezes off the lakes and the abundant fishing. Initially in tourist hotels, and then gradually into cottages of their own, the influx of summer residents brought a vitality to the local economy that continues to this day. Drawing primarily from Indiana, and the neighboring states of Michigan and Ohio, the influx of visitors, “brings many tourist dollars to Indiana, as the purchase price of lots of buildings, or building materials, as contractors’ profits, and a taxes on the property and improvements. In addition, groceries, gasoline, and other items of living expenses, add materially to the income of merchants located in this county.”⁷

Previous to the widespread use of air conditioning in residential construction in the 1950s, the Midwest was home to an annual summer migration of upper and upper-middle class families from the summer heat of the city to the relative cool of the lakes. Due to the large mass of cool water, temperatures at the lakeside could be as much as 5 degrees cooler than the surrounding farmland. Families would come for an extended period varying from a week to the entire four-month season, which traditionally lasted from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Local property owners subdivided their lakeside property into small narrow lots whose primary value was their lakeside frontage. Cottages were soon established. Ranging from the initial gable front two-story designs, to a more common side gable one-story design in the 1910s and 1920s, the cottages represent a distinct vernacular architectural type. Defined by their proximity in siting to a recreational resource such as a lake or river, the lake cottage had an extensive use of porches and was typically single pile in massing. As the number of cottages increased, cottages surrounded the lakes on all sides. The number of vacationers and summer residents grew to such an extent that by the 1920s large hotels and entertainment complexes sprang up that served not

⁵ Charles Redway Dryer, *Studies in Indiana Geography*, (Terre Haute, IN: Inland Publishing Co., 1908)

⁷ Harvey Morley, “Recreational Industry” in *The 1955 History of Steuben County*, Harvey Morley, ed., (Angola, IN: Harvey W. Morley, 1956) 153.

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only the lakes but the surrounding county as well.⁹ The influx of visitors made, and continues to make, the tourism, recreation and vacation industries important in the economy of the county. Spawning a unique "lake cottage" culture and architecture, the area continues to be defined by lakeside living. These summer residents first arrived at the vacation resorts at the lakes via the railroad. The nearest to Lake Gage was the short-lived St. Joseph Valley Railroad with a stop on the north side of the lake. Operating only from 1906 to 1918, the St. Joe Valley Line was popularly known as the "Arnica Salve" line after the patent medicine that brought its owner his wealth.¹⁰ Originating in Elkhart, Indiana and heading east to Orland and Angola, the line ran along the north side of both Lime Lake and Lake Gage. Guests of the important Shady Nook resort, the large vacation resort located approximately one-half mile south of the Lime Lake - Lake Gage channel and bridge, would arrive at the lake and then be ferried across the lake.¹¹ This was necessary due to the poor condition of what few roads existed and the impassable nature of the low-lying area between the two lakes. Previous to the automobile, and "even as late as 1940, (Hoosier) motorists often confronted a morass in the spring and a choking dust in the summer."¹⁵ When the widespread use of the automobile began in the 1920s, the county began to address the deplorable nature of rural roads through a program for the improvement of roads. Last among these projects, due to their seasonal nature, were the routes in and around the many lakes. In

⁹ Complexes such as Bledsoe's Beach, Island Park, Cold Springs and Buck Lake Resort had resident jazz bands, dance halls, ice cream parlors, boat races and water slides.

¹⁰ Theron Miller, "The St. Joseph Valley Railway" in *The 1955 History of Steuben County*, Harvey Morley, ed. (Angola, IN: Harvey W. Morley, 1956) 182, 185-86

¹¹ Shady Nook promotional brochure, 1902. Orland Public Library, Lake Gage clipping file.

¹⁵ James H. Madison, *Indiana through Tradition and Change: A History of the Hoosier State and its People, 1920-1945*, (Indianapolis, IN: Indiana Historical Society, 1962) 190

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1936 when the channel and bridge were constructed, the parks and state lands of Indiana were undergoing a building boom.¹⁶ Federal money and workers in the form of programs like the CCC, FERA, and WPA had unleashed thousands of men into the parks to construct trails and bridges, replant trees, regulate waterflow, and construct shelters and other buildings. Most of the construction of buildings and bridges that were to be used by the public were in the Park Rustic Style. Originating in mountain resort architecture, the style became increasingly standard in park architecture during the Depression.¹⁸ Using native material to blend into the landscape as much as possible, the style extensively used fieldstone as cladding.¹⁹ The Lime Lake - Lake Gage Bridge is built in, and outstandingly represents the Park Rustic Style. In Park Rustic bridge construction of the time, "while their understructure might be concrete and steel forms, such material was hidden beneath earth or stone."²⁰

Large numbers of Park Rustic Style structures were constructed in Steuben County during the Depression. The majority were constructed on State of Indiana owned land, with a concentration at the large Pokagon State Park. The entirety of Pokagon State Park is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The buildings and structures at the Park, like the Lime Lake-Lake Gage Bridge make extensive use of fieldstone and concrete construction. These structures include picnic shelters, drinking fountains, beach houses, gatehouses and the Potawatomi Inn. There is a WPA-era bridge at the Park but it is constructed using a wood deck and supports with field stone wingwalls. Other WPA-era fieldstone constructed structures are found at the National Register listed Fawn River State Fish Hatchery north of the Town of Orland. This is in Mill Grove Township, as is the Lime Lake - Lake Gage Bridge and Channel. These structures include an ornamental gate as well as a small fieldstone bridge with similar span, length, material and construction method to the Lime Lake - Lake Gage Bridge. The bridge at the Fawn River Hatchery spans a small feeder stream diverting water from the Fawn River to the fish-

¹⁶ Glory-June Greiff, "New Deal Resources on Indiana State Lands" National Park Service, National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form. 1996, 17.

¹⁸ Ethan Carr, *Wilderness by Design: Landscape Architecture and the National Park Service*, (Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1998) 43.

¹⁹ Greiff, 8.

²⁰ Greiff, 5.

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rearing ponds. This bridge is the only other similar bridge to the Lime Lake-Lake Gage Bridge in Steuben County.

The Lime Lake - Lake Gage channel, like many others in Steuben County connects two freshwater lakes. Remnants of glacial moraines and "kettle holes", these lakes stretch throughout the county, often connected to other lakes by small streams or areas of low-lying marsh. Early settlers used these lake outlets as waterpower for mills, such as at Nevada Mills and Jamestown. Later development of the lake cottage culture in the county led to dredging of the small streams and wetlands to allow for the passage of boats. At first sail and human powered, as population around the lakes increased so did the use of motor powered boats. The Lime Lake - Lake Gage Channel represents one of the few remaining dredged channels limited by size to the passage of human powered and very small motor powered boats. As such it is a unique resource. Equally unique is the condition of the channel. Largely covered with vegetation, the majority of the channel remains relatively undeveloped. As noted in the narrative description, the sand bottom and deliberately placed fieldstones are unique in Steuben County amongst dredged channels between lakes.

When the construction of the channel between Lime Lake and Lake Gage began in 1936, the United States was still in the midst of the Great Depression, the largest economic calamity and dislocation our nation has yet experienced. Millions of men, women and children were thrown out of work, hungry and in danger of losing their homes. In Steuben County, the economic situation mirrored that of the nation as a whole. Large-scale unemployment was to some degree tempered by the rural nature of the county, with agriculture, hunting and fishing providing many with means to feed themselves. Nonetheless, thousands remained out of work.

FDR's New Deal touched the county in programs like the large Civilian Conservation Corps Camp at Pokagon State Park, as well as in the construction of municipal and educational buildings in the county seat of Angola, and other small towns like Metz and Salem Center. The Works Progress Administration introduced by FDR in 1935 brought work to local unemployed men. The use of Federal funds allowed counties in Indiana to address needs like public buildings, roads, and parks that had been delayed by the Depression.

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Steuben County, IN

On August 7, 1935, the *Steuben Republican* announced the suspension of work under the Public Works Administration and the era of the Works Progress Administration began in Steuben County.²² Shortly after, in a September 4, 1935 column entitled "Federal Funds to be Sought", a list of projects including "improvements of roadways about the principal lakes" was presented, anticipating the award of funds under the WPA.²³ The announcement of a large award under the WPA of \$195,000 to employ 158 men, allowed the commencement of road improvement projects throughout the county.²⁴ In the same article, announcement was also made of a \$14,538 conservation project. This was to employ 13 men to build 45 low water dams, to control soil erosion and retard the drainage of the lakes of the county.²⁵ It is likely that these grants were the WPA expenditures that paid for the construction of the Lime Lake - Lake Gage Bridge and Channel. The physical records in Steuben County relating to the expenditure of such money were destroyed in the 1970s. The first Steuben County Planning Board President, Harvey W. Morley, wrote in his 1955 *History of Steuben County* that the channel was dug in 1936.²⁶ Harvey W. Morley was President of the Planning Board in 1937. Lake Gage resident Theresa Hitzfield recalls WPA workers dredging the channel and planting hybrid Tamarack trees.²⁷ The c. 1938 aerial photo clearly shows the newly dredged channel and newly constructed road and bridge. (Attachment B) Throughout Steuben County, WPA labor was used in the construction of park facilities, both at the county and State level. WPA labor was used in the construction of county parks at Crooked and Clear Lakes, fish hatcheries at Fox Lake and Fawn River, and in the development of the Pigeon River State Forest.²⁸

²² "Relief Work is Suspended", *Steuben Republican*, August 7, 1935.

²³ "Federal Funds to be Sought", *Steuben Republican*, September 4, 1935.

²⁴ "Steuben Gets Big Grant for Road Work", *Steuben Republican*, November 13, 1935.

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Morley, 142.

²⁷ "Hitzfield remembers first outboard motor on Gage", *Angola Herald-Republican*, July 14, 1995

²⁸ Floyd W. DeLancey, "The Conservation Clubs of Steuben County" in *The 1955 History of Steuben County*, Harvey Morley, ed. (Angola, IN: Harvey W. Morley, 1956) 270-72.

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Concurrent with the efforts to dredge the channel, and construct the bridge, the Indiana Department of Conservation also acquired the adjacent shoreline to the north and west of the channel, and developed a fish hatchery plan that was not constructed. All of the land and shoreline has remained with the state, however, and became the Lime Lake Public Access site, owned and maintained by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources to the present. The Lime Lake-Lake Gage Bridge and Channel are historic resources located within this present day recreation site.

The Lime Lake – Lake Gage Channel and Bridge outstandingly represent a New Deal era civic improvement on Indiana State Lands. Although the setting has changed and matured throughout the intervening years, integrity remains. The Channel and Bridge represent the associated property types relating to conservation and infrastructure development described in the “New Deal Resources on Indiana State Lands Multiple Property Documentation Form,”

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Steuben County, IN

Boundary Description

The boundary of the Lime Lake - Lake Gage Channel and Bridge is shown as the thick line in the attached sketch map entitled "Lime Lake - Lake Gage Channel and Bridge Boundary Sketch Map." It is also described verbally in the accompanying narrative paragraph.

Beginning at the point where Lake Gage and the Lime Lake - Lake Gage Channel meet proceed west approximately 159 feet along the visible edge of the north bank of the channel shoreline to the point where Lime Lake and the Lime Lake - Lake Gage Channel meet. From this point proceed south approximately 38 feet to the point where Lime Lake and the Lime Lake - Lake Gage Channel meet upon the south bank of the Lime Lake - Lake Gage Channel. From this point proceed east along the visible edge of the south bank of the channel shoreline to the point where the Lime Lake - Lake Gage Channel and Lake Gage meet upon the southern bank of the Lime Lake - Lake Gage Channel. From this point proceed north approximately 38 feet to return to the point of origin.

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Lime Lake - Lake Gage Channel and Bridge
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Boundary Justification

The boundary contains all of the New Deal era channel and bridge. The Lime Lake Public Access Site has been excluded due to the lack of visible evidence that New Deal era construction remains. The rest of the Channel remains submerged due to rising lake levels and its condition is unknown. At this point in time, since it cannot serve its function, this portion of the Channel is not included in the boundary.

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Steuben County, IN

The following information is the same for all photographs:

1. Lime Lake - Lake Gage Channel and Bridge, Steuben County, IN
2. Steuben County, Indiana
3. Michael Galbraith
4. July 2, 2007
5. Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology
402 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Additional information for individual photographs:

Photo 1

IN_SteubenCounty_LimeLake-LakeGageChannelandBridge_0001

1. Lime Lake - Lake Gage Channel and Bridge
6. Camera facing northwest from bridge towards Lime Lake.
7. 1 of 6

Photo 2

IN_SteubenCounty_LimeLake-LakeGageChannelandBridge_0002

1. Lime Lake - Lake Gage Channel and Bridge
6. Camera facing south from north side of channel bank towards south bank.
7. 2 of 6

Photo 3

IN_SteubenCounty_LimeLake-LakeGageChannelandBridge_0003

1. Lime Lake - Lake Gage Bridge
6. Camera facing south from centerline of North Lake Gage Road towards bridge.
7. 3 of 6

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Lime Lake - Lake Gage Channel and Bridge
Steuben County, IN

Photo 4

IN_Steuben County_LimeLake-LakeGageChannelandBridge_0004

1. Lime Lake – Lake Gage Channel and Bridge
6. Camera facing southwest from north side of channel towards the east side of bridge and abutments.
7. 4 of 6

Photo 5

IN_Steuben County_LimeLake-LakeGageChannelandBridge_0005

1. Lime Lake - Lake Gage Channel and Bridge
6. Camera facing southeast from north side of channel towards the west side of bridge.
7. 5 of 6

Photo 6

IN_SteubenCounty_LimeLake-LakeGageChannelandBridge_0006

1. Lime Lake – Lake Gage Channel and Bridge
6. Detail of center post on west wall of bridge, showing evidence of lamppost.
7. 6 of 6

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Lime Lake - Lake Gage Channel and Bridge
Steuben County, IN

List of Attachments

Attachment A: 1912 Steuben County Plat map showing stream through Lake Gage-Lime Lake isthmus

Attachment B. 1938 Aerial photograph showing Lime Lake-Lake Gage Channel and Bridge

Attachment C. Lime Lake-Lake Channel, Bridge and Public Access Site.

Attachment D. Lime Lake-Lake Gage Bridge and Channel, c. 1938.

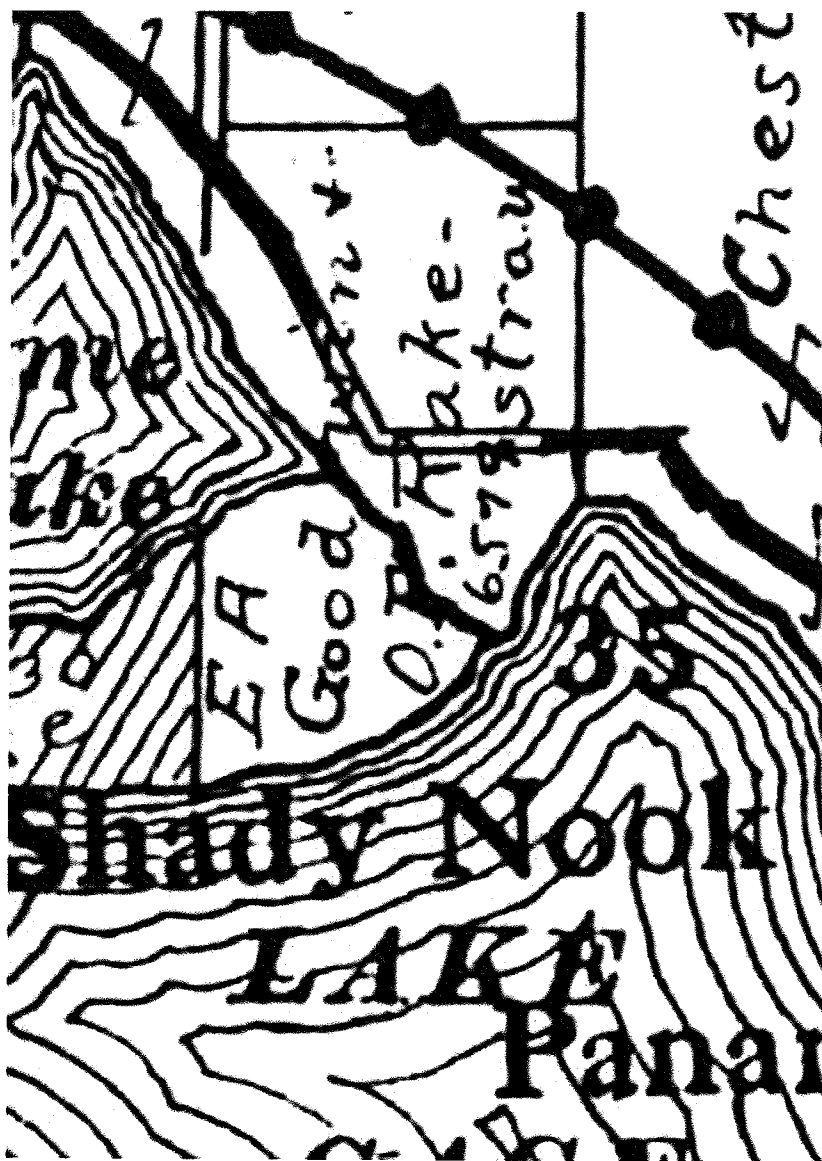
Attachment E. c.1936 Plan for Public Access Site including fish rearing ponds and game bird breeding houses.

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(Attachment A. 1912 Steuben County Plat map showing stream through Lake Gage-Lime Lake isthmus (Morley, H. W., 1912 *Atlas of Steuben County, Indiana* (Des Moines, IA: The Kenyon Company, 1912)))

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(Attachment B. 1938 Aerial photograph showing Lime Lake-Lake Gage Channel and Bridge. Note lower water level relative to 2005 photograph in Attachment C. (Courtesy Steuben County GIS office.))

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Steuben County, IN



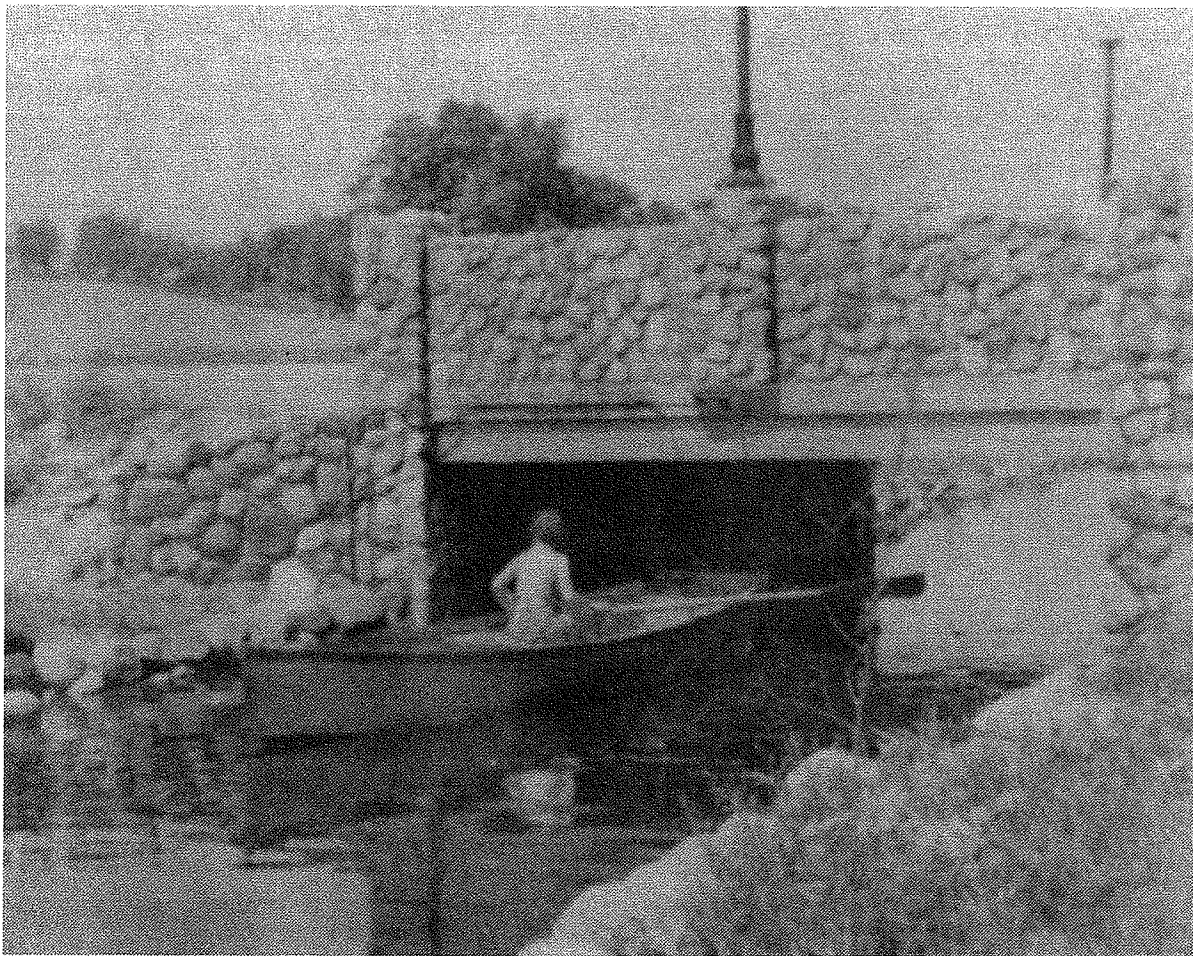
(Attachment C. Lime Lake-Lake Channel, Bridge and Public Access Site. Note higher water level from 1938 photograph in Attachment B. (Steuben County GIS web site, accessed July 11, 2007)

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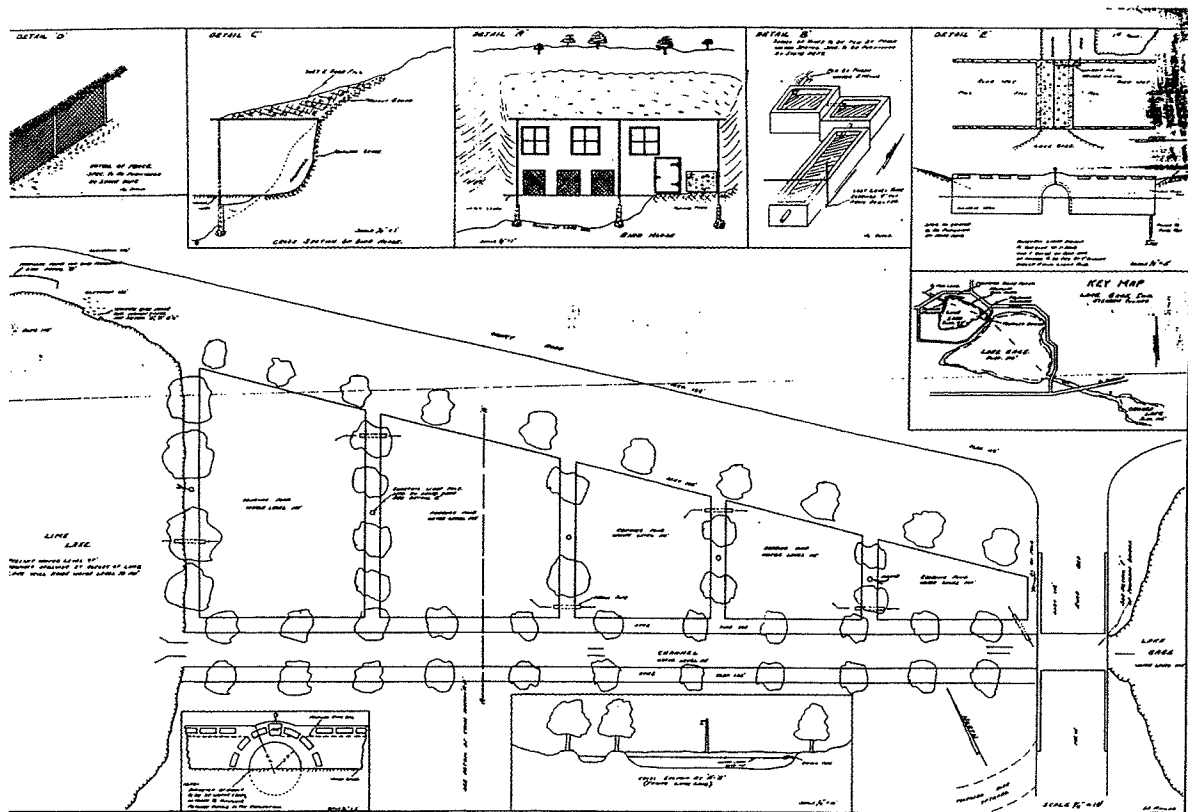
(Attachment D. Lime Lake-Lake Gage Channel and Bridge, c. 1938. Note metal lamps on central pillars of bridge walls (Munger, Lynn, *Memories of Steuben County* (Marceline, MO: Heritage House Publishing Co., 1997) 36

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Lime Lake - Lake Gage Channel and Bridge
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Preliminary plans drawn in 1937 for the area surrounding the Lake Gage/Lime Lake channel. The drawing shows a large two story bird house partially over the water, five minnow rearing ponds, and plans for the bridge.

(Attachment E. c.1937 plan for Public Access Site including fish rearing ponds and game bird breeding houses. (Weaver, Joseph A., *Lake Gage and Lime Lake Reflections* (No city: Joseph A. Weaver, 2002)



Lime Lake-Lake Gage Channel and Bridge, Steuben Co., IN photo #4



Lime Lake-Lake Gage Channel and Bridge, Steuben Co., IN photo #5